

T-689
Amelia Ross House
St. Michaels
private

c. 1873

The Amelia Ross house, built around 1873, is a standard two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with a symmetrical main elevation and a turned post front porch that defines North Talbot Street. Amelia Ross, who appears in the county land records, is credited with financing the construction of the dwelling after she purchased the lot from Josiah Fairbank for \$125; a sum that would not have included a substantial improvement. Shortly afterwards two mortgages were made with the Workingman's Building & Loan Association of St. Michaels with the lot as collateral. Amelia Ross did not own the property very long for she sold it in 1876 for \$730. This higher price indicates the house had been built at the time of transfer to the grantee, Louisa E. Baker.

Maryland Historical Trust

State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic AMELIA ROSS HOUSE

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 110 North Talbot Street not for publication

city, town St. Michaels vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> x </u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> x </u> building(s)	<u> x </u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> <u> x </u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> x </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u> x </u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 236

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio 39

city, town Easton state MD 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date federal state county local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. T-689

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Amelia Ross house stands at 110 North Talbot Street in the northern commercial district of St. Michaels, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, three-bay frame house faces east with the main gable roof oriented on a north/south axis.

Built around 1873, the two-story frame dwelling is supported by a brick pier foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of vinyl siding. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the house is a two-story service wing.

The front (east) elevation is a symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking six-over-six sash windows. The molded four-panel front door is flanked by three-light sidelights and a four-light transom. Stretching across the front of the house is a turned post hip roof porch decorated with sawn corner brackets. The second floor is lighted by three evenly spaced six-over-six sash windows. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice.

The north and south gable ends are lighted by six-over-six sash windows to either side of interior end brick stove chimneys. The gable ends are flush.

The rear two-story wing has an interior end brick chimney, and it is lighted by six-over-six sash windows also.

The interior finishes were not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-689

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates ☐ Builder/Architect ☐

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Amelia Ross house, built around 1873, is a standard two-story, three-bay frame dwelling with a symmetrical main elevation and a turned post front porch. Aside from a layer of vinyl siding the house appears relatively unaltered, and the period architectural features contribute to the historic, late nineteenth century character of North Talbot Street. With increasing pressure on these dwellings for conversion to commercial space, efforts should be made to insure the preservation of the original exterior fabric.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Amelia Ross, who appears in the Talbot County land records, is credited with financing the construction of this vernacular two-story frame house around 1873. She purchased the lot in that year from Josiah Fairbank for \$125, a sum that would not have included a substantial improvement. (79/155) Shortly thereafter two mortgages were made to the Workingman's Building & Loan Association of St. Michaels with the lot as collateral. (See 79/161, and 81/509) Amelia Ross did not own the property very long for she sold it in 1876 for \$730. (83/70) This higher price indicates the house had been built at the time of transfer to the grantee, Louisa E. Baker.

AMELIA ROSS HOUSE

T-689

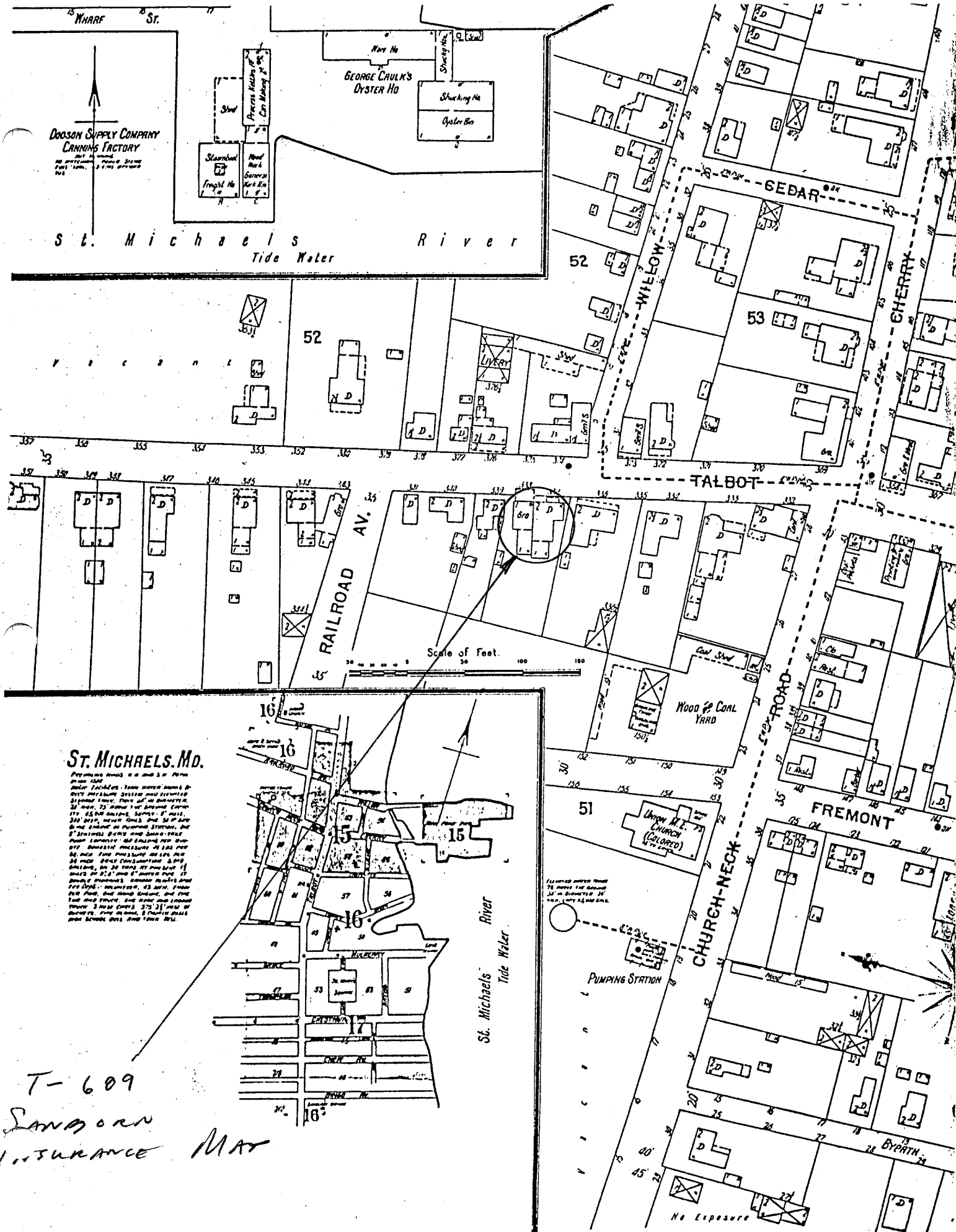
YEAR: 1935 VOL: 236 PAGE: 39
FROM: Mary Alice Sterling PRICE:
TO: Blanche Ford Wilson
NOTES Mary Alice Sterling is former wife of W. H. Wilson.
Same lot described in 1915, 170/364.
To W. H. Wilson by Smith and Harrington 1915, 170/364.

YEAR: 1915 VOL: 170 PAGE: 364
FROM: John E. Smith, George W. Harrington and Ipha M. Harrington PRICE: \$900
TO: William H. Wilson
NOTES Begins at the NE corner of Rowena Harrison; run with Harrison NW 101 feet
to P. T. Hambleton; with Hambleton N 50 feet; then SE 61 feet; then NE 20 feet
to Talbot Street with Talbot Street S 62 feet 6 inches to the beginning.
Conveyed to Smith and Harrington by Hopkins 1914, 169/26

YEAR: 1914 VOL: 169 PAGE: 26
FROM: Edward F. Hopkins and Helen G. Hopkins PRICE: \$800
TO: John E. Smith and George W. Harrington
NOTES Same description.
To Hopkins by Baker 1913, 164/921.

YEAR: 1913 VOL: 164 PAGE: 421
FROM: Louisa E. Baker and others PRICE: \$750
TO: Edward F. Hopkins and Helen G. Hopkins
NOTES The "others" are: Lina M. Ross, Walter A. Ross, Kate A. Dickey, and
John M. Dickey. (Heirs of John W. Baker)
Part of the land devised by John W. Baker by will 17/127.
Baker leaves the "house and lot where I now reside and the house and lot north
of and adjoining said property...being a house and lot purchased by me of the
heirs of Philip Dennis"

YEAR: 1876 VOL: 83 PAGE: 70
FROM: Amelia Ross and Robert C. Ross PRICE: \$730
TO: Louisa E. Baker
NOTES For description see 1873, 79/155
To Ross by Josiah Fairbank 1873, 79/155.



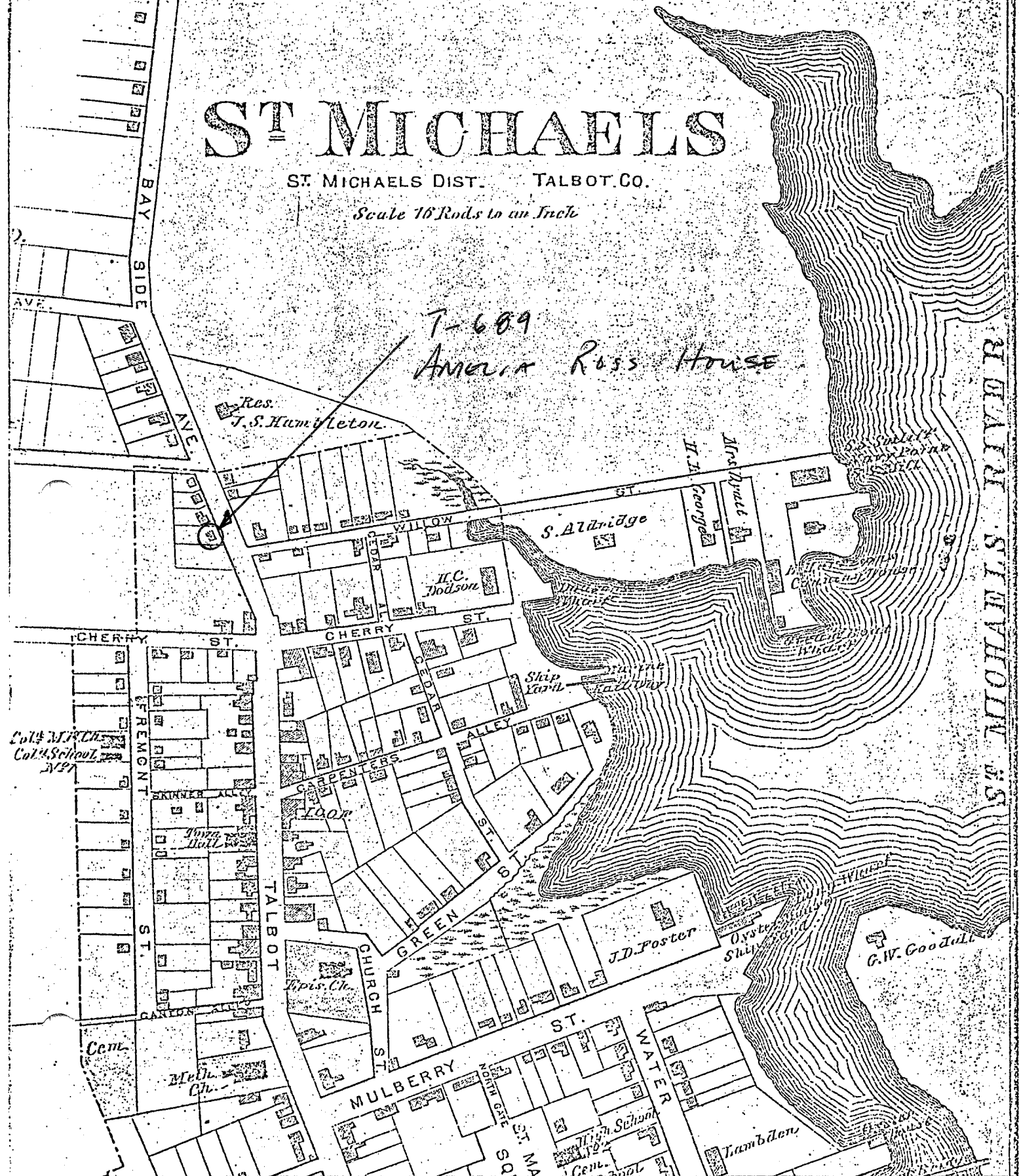
1877. LAKE, GRIVINGS,
AND STEVENSON ATLAS

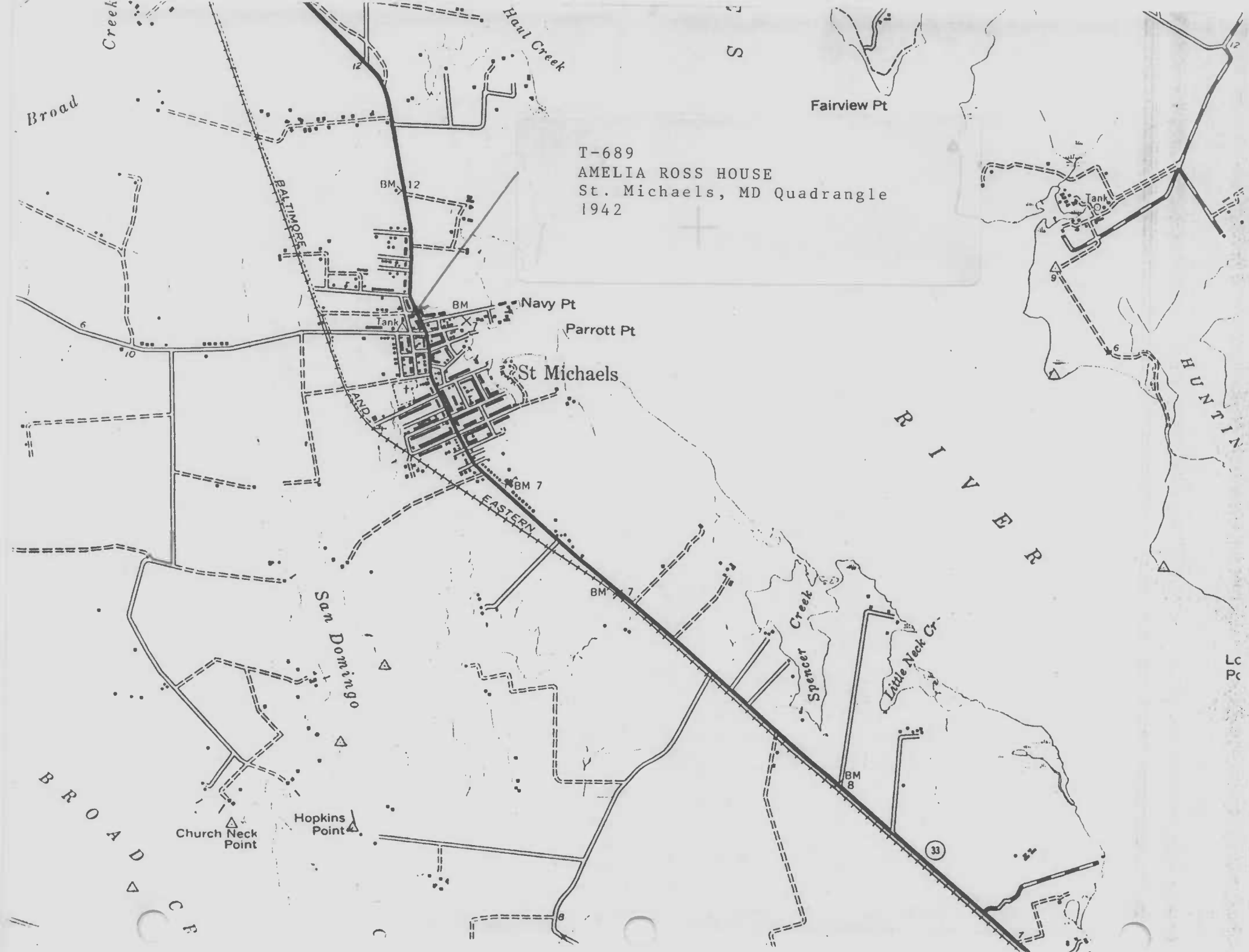
ST MICHAELS

ST. MICHAELS DIST. TALBOT CO.

Scale 16 Rods to an Inch

T-689
America Ross House







T-689

AMELIA ROSS HOUSE

East elevation

St. Michaels, Talbot Co., MD

5/89/Paul Touart, photographer

Neagative/Md Historical Trust